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to a general public, i. e. in grammatical and rhetorical works, and in poetry. It is expressed when a particular person is addressed, and so is regularly found in orations and in juristic writings. Concerning the use of a predicate noun or pronoun a new rule of style is formulated—namely, that in the case of persons two datives should be used, while with other words ('sächliche Begriffe,' such as *oratio, animus, patria*, etc.) two accusatives were the rule from about 55 B. C. on. Fronto first uses *diebus et noctibus* by a kind of personification.

The use of *licet* as a conjunction developed from the paratactic construction, the subj. being an independent potential, and is not of frequent occurrence. Plautus has but one case (in *Asin.* 718), and although found in Cicero, it is not used by Caes., Hirt., Bell. Afr., Sall., or Nep. The indic. with *licet* appears first in Appuleius, who, however, also uses the subj., and occurs sporadically in later Latin.

By a kind of "Tempusverschiebung" the perf. act. inf. with *licet* occurs sometimes in poetry, possibly first in Cic. *Aratea*, 669; then in Virg., Hor., Ov., Luc., Sen., Mart. and Iuv. The word most frequently used is *dixisse*, and a favorite position is at the close of a pentameter verse. This usage made its way into prose in Sen. Phil., and Petron.

So also the past tense of the subj., where the strict sequence would of course require the primary tenses, is found as early as Bell. *Hisp.* 16, 3; then in Mart., Iuv., Paneg., Eccl.

This brief outline aims merely at calling attention to Professor Lease's study, and presenting some of its salient features. It of necessity does scant justice to the great amount of valuable and interesting material which he has collected, by which the conclusions summarized above are supported. A complete list, chronologically arranged, is given of Cicero's formulas with *licet* and the pass. inf. which occur but once, and a list of the writers who avoid the pass. inf. altogether, with the number of cases of *licet* with the act. inf. in each. A number of cases of *licitum est*, etc., are added to the collection in the *Neue-Wagener Formenlehre*, III³, p. 661, and statements of Schmalz in the *Antibarbarus* and the *Lat. Syntax* are corrected or modified.

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A, ab, abs. JOHN C. ROLFE. [Reprint from *Archiv f. latein. Lexicographie*, X, pp. 465-505.]

Classical philologists have watched with interest the lexicon articles which have appeared from time to time in the *Archiv f. latein. Lexicog.*, as these articles have not only presented new and interesting lexical material, but have also shown what we may expect in the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*, which, projected by Wölfflin, is now being prepared under the auspices of the Royal

Academies of Berlin, Göttingen, Leipsic, Munich, and Vienna. As Wölfflin himself has said, the workers have learned their art as their work has progressed, so that the later "Probeartikel" show an advance in method over the earlier ones. The latest and by far the most important article yet presented is that on *a, ab, abs*, by Professor Rolfe, of the University of Michigan; this lies before us in the form of a reprint, and from its importance calls for fuller mention than is possible in the abstract of the Archiv which will appear in this JOURNAL.

The lexicon article proper is preceded by 22 pp. of material which could not be presented in the article itself. The first five rubrics discuss the origin and the history of the usage of the forms *ab, abs, a, af, au*, and *po-*. The history of *ab* is the most complete and is of especial interest. It appears from the investigation that the elder Seneca was the first to aim at regularity in limiting *ab* to use before vowels, as required by the grammarians' rules; his example was followed by Velleius, the philosopher Seneca, Petronius (who shows absolute regularity), Quintilian, and the younger Pliny—the elder Pliny and Tacitus were less strict; also the Christian writers, as we should expect. *Ab* before consonants showed especial persistence in religious and legal formulae, e. g. *ab love, ab dis, ab consule, ab iure*; in certain expressions taken from military life, *ab castris, ab legato*; as well as in designations of place and time, *ab dextra, ab ianua, ab regione*, etc.

The form *af*, probably a dialectic form, which does not appear in literature, is represented by ten examples from the Corpus; *au* appears, aside from the compounds *aufugio, aufero*, only in codex oblongus of Lucretius 4, 288, *au speculo*. A paragraph is devoted to the position of the preposition, and the introductory article closes with a full list (occupying nearly five pages) of the *officia servorum ac libertorum* from inscriptions—a list which is of great interest and value.

These introductory chapters are followed (pp. 487-505) by the lexicon article proper, in which the various usages of the preposition are presented under the general subdivisions *de loco, de tempore, sensu causali*, = *ablat. instrumenti*. It is impossible to enter into a detailed discussion of the article, but all who examine it will appreciate the immense superiority the Thesaurus will possess over all existing lexica. The material on which the work will be based is to be practically complete from the earliest times to Isidore, and the articles, if brought to the standard here set, will meet the requirements of present day lexicography. The mass of examples which formed the basis of the present article is appalling, and the author is to be congratulated on possessing the skill as well as the patience necessary to extract what was important from the mass and to present it in interesting form. It is a pleasure to all American scholars that the first article in the future Thesaurus will come from one of their own number.